Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 00394 01 OF 02 231930Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04 SIL-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 JUSE-00 /080 W
----------110154 231949Z /45
O R 231703Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9203
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CARACAS
AMEMBASSY LIMA
AMEMBASSY QUITO
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 TEGUCIGALPA 0394

FOR ARA/RPP: JOHN O'GRADY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, HO
SUBJECT: CLAT PROBLEMS: HONDURAS: FORGED LETTER ATTEMPTS TO IMPLICATE USG

REF: (A) 77 TEGUCIGALPA 5915, (B) LIPPE-O'GRADY TELCON

1. EMBASSY WAS CALLED LATE AFTERNOON JANUARY 19 BY FELICITO AVILA, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HONDURAN GENERAL WORKERS CONFEDERATION (CGT) WITH A REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT WITH THE LABOR OFFICER. UPON HIS INSISTENCE, APPOINTMENT MADE SAME DAY. AVILA ARRIVED WITH SIX OTHER (UNANNOUNCED) PERSONS. AFTER RAPID INTRODUCTIONS, ALL SEVEN PULLED OUT A XEROXED COPY OF A LETTER AND BEGAN TO ASK QUESTIONS SUCH AS:
-- DOES JOHN O'GRADY EXIST?
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PAGE 02 TEGUCI 00394 01 OF 02 231930Z

-- IS HE THE "LABOR DIRECTOR" FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT?
-- DID LABOFF OR POLOFF RECOGNIZE HIS SIGNATURE?

2. SEVERAL OF THE PERSONS PRESENT TOOK NOTES OF REPLIES AND THEN GAVE EMBOFFS A COPY OF THE LETTER WITH REQUEST THAT IT BE SENT TO O'GRADY FOR VERIFICATION. (THE GROUP ALSO REQUESTED A LETTER FROM THE EMBASSY FOR JANUARY 20

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

RESPONDING TO THEIR QUESTIONS.) SINSE OF ALLEGED O'GRADY
LETTER, WHICH IS ADDRESSED TO PEFRO MENDOZA OF THE CGT-
AFFILIATED NATIONAL CAMPESINOS UNION (UNC) AND WAS
CLEARLY FAKED, ASSURES MENDOZA THAT O'GRADY HAS
ARRANGED THAT THE REQUESTS PRESENTED DURING A MEETING IN
HONDURAS WILL BE APPROVED.

3. AFTER THE GROUP LEFT, AVILA TELEPHONED AND SAID HE
WANTED TO BE SURE EMBOFFS KNEW THE EXACT NAMES OF THE
OTHER PERSONS IN THE GROUP, WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS:
MARCIAL EUCEDA, SECRETARY GENERAL, UNC
PEDRO MENDOZA, UNC
OSCAR ESCALANTE, SECRETARIO CONFLICTOS, CGT
RAMON RANGEL BARRA, CLAT, SEC. GEN. FOR CAMPESINO AFFAIRS
JULIO CELSO DE LEON, CLAT, REPRESENTATIVE FOR CENTRAL AMERICA.

4. INCLUSION OF CLAT MEMBERS CLARIFIES REASON FOR INQUEST-LIKE
ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING. PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT A CLAT DELEGATION
WAS TO VISIT TEGUCIGALPA TO INVESTIAGE MALFEASANCE AND OTHER
CHARGES AGAINST HONDURAN CGT LEADERS (REF A). IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT
EMBOFFS WERE IN EFFECT BEING
SUBJECTED TO AN INVESTIGATIVE HEARING. IT ALSO EXPLAINS SMILES
ON FACES OF CGT LEADERS WHEN EMBOFF, WHO WAS REPLYING TO THEIR
QUESTIONS, ASKED FOR CLARIFICATION OF THE REASONS FOR THE VISIT --
BEFORE THE GROUP HAD GIVEN EMBOFFS COPY OF THE LETTER -- AND
VENTURED GUESS THAT IT MIGHT HAVE TO DO WITH CGT-CLAT PROBLEMS.
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THEY ALSO CALIMED NOT TO HAVE THE ORIGINAL OF THE LETTER, BUT ONLY A
COPY THAT APPEARED IN THE MAIL.

5. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER, WITH ERRORS NOT CORRECTED:

WASHINGTON D.D. 5 DE JULIO 1977

SR (S) DIRECTORES U.N.C.
PEDRO MENDOZA TILGUANT Y
DEMAS CROS.
TEGUCIGALPA CENTRAL AMERICA.

AMIGOS NUESTROS:

ACUSAMOS ESTAR RECIBIENDO AL TIEMPO DEBIDO TODAS LAS INFOR-
MACIONES SOLICITADOAS EN LA ENTREVISTA QUE TUVIERAMOS EN HON-
HURAS.
PLACEME COMUNICARLES QUE PRESENTE AL DEPARTAMENTO DE ESTADO
DE LA UNION AMERICANA (SECCION DE DESARROLO RURAL) SU INFOR-
ME DE TRABAJO Y FUE TAMADO COMO SATISFACTORIO.
HEMOS CONVERSADO CON LOS COMPANEROS DEL CONSEJO DE FUNDACIO-
NES AMERICANAS (CFAD) Y SERAN ELLOS QUIEN TRAMITARAN LAS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

SOLICITUDES PRESENTADAS POR LOS SINDICATOS QUE DIRIGEN UDS,
YA RIOS SHARP Y FERNANDEZ TIENEN LAS INSTRUCCIONES A SU FA-
BOR, MIENTRAS TANTO ENVIAMOS AGRADECIMIENTOS SOLIDARIOS Y LOS
SALUDOS PARA TODOS.
SI SE ORGANIZA LA MISION CULTURAL EN NOVIEMBRE PROXIMO NUESTRO
ESTADO DE VERMOT SERA SU PATRIA Y HOGAR. ATENTAMENTE.

JONH OGLADY
ENCARGADO LABORAL
DEPTO ESTADO USA.

(ROUND STAMP WHICH SAYS: COMPANEROS DE LA ALIANZA HONDURAS VERMONT)

6. AMONG PROBLEMS WITH LETTER ARE: LACK OF ORIGINAL, MISTAKES
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PAGE 04 TEGUCI 00394 01 OF 02 231930Z

IN WASHINGTON ADDRESS AND MISSPELLING OF O'GRADY'S NAMES, UNLIKELY
TITLE O'GRADY ALLEGEDLY USED, FACT THAT O'GRADY HASN'T BEEN
IN HONDURAS FOR SOME TIME AND USE OF "PARTNERS" STAMP ON AN
ALLEGED STATE DEPARTMENT LETTER. COPY OF ALLEGED O'GRADY LETTER
BEING POUCHED ARA/RPP.

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PAGE 01 TEGUCI 00394 02 OF 02 231937Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 TEGUCIGALPA 0394

FOR ARA/RPP: JOHN O'GRADY

7. PRESS STORY JANUARY 20 REPORTS THAT A CLAT MISSION IS IN TOWN. REPORTER ASKED AVILA IF THE VISIT IS DUE TO REPORTS THAT CGT HAD RELATIONS WITH ORGANIZATIONS THAT THE CLAT DISLIKED. AVILA REPORTEDLY REPLIED "IT HAS BEEN CLAIMED THAT THE UNC HAS HAD RELATIONS WITH THE 'AMERICAN FOUNDATION.' BUT THIS IS A MANEUVER TO DESTROY THE CAMPESINO MOVEMENT. NEITHER THE UNC NOR THE CGT HAS HAD RELATIONS WITH THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION OR THE FORD FOUNDATION AS IT HAS BEEN ATTEMPTED TO MAKE APPEAR."

8. COMMENT: AMERICAN FOUNDATION APPARENTLY REFERS TO INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION (IAF). SOME IAF GRANTS HAVE GONE TO THE UNC THROUGH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS.

9. AS A RESULT OF TELCON (REF B), EMBASSY BELIEVES THE LETTER IS A CLUMSY FORGERY AND SEES NO REASON TO GIVE CGT LEADERS THE LETTER THEY WANTED, ONLY ON THE BASIS OF A VERBAL REQUEST. THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 TEGUCI 00394 02 OF 02 231937Z

ANOMALIES WERE VERBALLY POINTED OUT TO THEM ON JANUARY 19 AND THAT SHOULD BE SUFFICIENT TO GET US OUT OF AN ATTEMPT ON THE PART OF PERSONS STILL UNKNOWN TO PUT US INTO CGT-CLAT PROBLEMS. CONTINUING INTERNAL RIVALRIES HAVE SERIOUSLY WEAKENED THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY, THE CGT AND TO A LESSER EXTENT THE UNC. IT WOULD NO BE SURPRISING IF THIS FORGERY WAS ORIGINATED BY RIVALS OF THE CGT-UNC LEADERSHIP THAT VISITED THE EMBASSYY AND SENT TO THE CLAT FOR USE OF THE DELEGATION NOW VISITING THE CGT.
JARAMILLO

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Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D780034-0323
Format: TEL
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780132/aaaabaxf.tel
Line Count: 206
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7ef424e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 TEGUCIGALPA 5915
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3728687
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ELAB, PINT, HO, US, CLAT
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7ef424e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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